

THE FEEDLINE

THE CANTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

FEBRUARY 2002



ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 27th!



OFFICERS:

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TREASURER

ROGER GRAY W8VE

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ED SOLOMON W8ATF

TOM EDMUNDS KC8FLS

JIM FISHER KC8OIR

LORI MILLER KC8ONY

CLUB REPEATER
146.790

MEETINGS

THIRD WEDNESDAY

EACH MONTH

7:30 PM

STARK COUNTY E.O.C.

LOWER LEVEL

STARK COUNTY

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

RT. 62 EAST

TRUSTEES MEETING

THIRD MONDAY

EACH MONTH 7:30 PM

STARK COUNTY E.O.C.

"THE FEEDLINE"

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY

BY CANTON

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

DEADLINE NEXT ISSUE

MARCH 10TH, 2002

EDITOR

BILL HANNON N8PW

The Canton Amateur Radio Club will host our area's first combined amateur radio club meeting. Ten clubs from Stark and surrounding counties have been invited to attend.

It gives us great pleasure to announce our areas first combined amateur radio club meeting. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

We are privileged to have **Mr. Joe Phillips** as our key note speaker. Mr. Phillips is the current ARRL Section Manager for Ohio. An accomplished speaker and ham of 43 years. He will address the *"Future of Amateur Radio"*. Also, attending area clubs will also provide insights about their club activities. The Canton Amateur Radio Club will host this great event. We will have door prizes, 50-50 drawing and light snacks. See you there!

Location: Stark State College, 6200 Frank Av. N.W.; Canton, Ohio

Meeting Room : Auditorium

Date: March 27, 2002

Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm

For further information contact:

Mike Robinson 330-478-3831 / KI0DE@AOL.COM / 146.79 Repeater

THE W8AL REPEATER

The Canton Amateur Radio Club repeater committee, control operators, club officers and trustees hope you enjoy using the machine. Our coordinated repeater offers good Stark County area coverage. 146.79 acts as a back up to the 147.12 ARES repeater during times of emergency operations.

Good operating practices, operations rules and tips

- 1) Prior to transmitting. Monitor the repeater for a clear frequency.
- 2) To initiate a contact, simply indicate that you are monitoring frequency. "This is W8ABC monitoring" will suffice.
- 3) Don't "KER-CHUNK" (key up without identifying yourself) the repeater to see if it's working.

4) Identify legally; per FCC regulation at the end of a transmission or series of transmissions and at least once each 10 minutes during communications.

5) Keep transmissions short and thoughtful. Your transmissions are being heard by many listeners. Including non-hams with scanners. Don't give a bad impression of our service.

6) Use simplex whenever possible.

7) Use the minimum amount of power necessary.

8) Our repeater is intended to facilitate mobile operations. During commuter rush hours, base stations should relinquish the repeater use to mobile stations.

CONTINUED PG. 2

THE W8AL REPEATER (CONTINUED)

9) Pause between transmissions. This allows other hams to use the repeater (someone may have an emergency)

10) Dont break into a conversation unless you have something to add.

11) The repeater is equipped with an aout-patch. When properly accessed you can connect the repeater to the telephone system.

When using the aotopatch it is your responsibility to comply with FCC regulations. (for both you and your caller) To connect enter * plus the 10 digit local number on your dtmf key pad. To disconnect transmit #. Be sure and identify third party traffic and yourself.

12) The repeater control operators have been

instructed to contact repeater users who do not follow FCC regulations and/or good operating practices. They will advise you of the situation and offer suggestions to resolve the problem. Repeat offenders may be barred from the machine and in extreme cases (illegal or improper operations) the repeater could be shut down.

13) Let us know how to improve. Contact any club officer, trustee, control operator or repeater committee member with your suggestions.

14) Your donations and/or CARC dues help us keep W8AL operational.

73, Mike Robinson President CARC

DX - NOTE BOOK !

IRAN - EP3PTT

Stig, LA7JO, has been given permission to operate from Iran. Using the club station of the PTT, he has been active on 40/20/15/10 meters. QSL via LA7JO (Stig works for UNICEF !)

NORTH KOREA - P5/4L4LN

Ed is back from holliday break and has a new Butternut vertical. He can be heard now on 15 meters (21.225 +/-) after 23:00z. he has also been heard on, or near 28.580.

NORTH KOREA - P5

Hrane (YT1AD) and Voja (YU7AV) have been granted a liscense to operate from North Korea. Operations begin March 5, 2002. The call sign & QSL route will be announced.

NICARAGUA - YN/DLhomecall

FEB, 8 - MARCH 8th / Dxpedition to YN by DL7CM, DL2OE, & DL3DXX - 160-6 meters; CW & RTTY with emphasis on the low bands - QSL to home calls as directed

WESTERN SAMOA - 5W0MP & 5W0DA

Feb. 19 - Feb. 28th - 80, 40 metters and WARC bands - CW & Digital QSL to home calls F6COW & F6EPY

SOUTH ORKNEY ISLAND

VP8SIG

The operation continues !!! The group expects to return to S. Orkney and operate from Feb. 27th until March 2nd QSL to GM0HCQ

NEWS & NOTES

Congratulations to club member K8DX who slugged his way to first place USA in the 2001 CQ-WW WPX SSB contest in the Low Power catagory. Scoring 4,392,350 points, Scott has earned yet another wood plaque. Scott logged 2,105 QSO's with 821 prefix multipliers.

Tune in to the ARRL CW DX contest on February 16-17th OR the ARRL SSB DX contest March 2-3rd. Participation is painless and lots of fun !

YLRL 2002 CONVENTION

The Young Ladies Radio League, Inc with Buckeye Belles and the Chix YL Club will sponsor a convention. They hope to promote YL's and introduce YL's into amateur radio. On August 2-4, 2002 the gathering will held at the Clarion Hotel, Middleburg Hts., Ohio. They offer speakers, tours, programs and prizes. For more information check out these web sites www.ql.net/ylrl and the Buckeye Belles at www.geocities.com/kc4iyd.

AREA NETS

STARK COUNTY MUTUAL AID NET SUNDAY AM

CW 11:00 28.150
P'KT 11:00 145.070-S
FM 11:30 146.520-S
SSB 11:45 28.310

SLOPPY FIST NET
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
9:00 PM - 28.138

ARES NET
TUESDAY
7:00 PM 147.120

ASTRONOMY NET
1ST WEDNESDAY
7:00 PM 147.180

ALLIANCE A.R.C.
THURSDAY PM
CW 8:00 28.400
SSB 8:30 28.400
VHF 9:00 145.370

MASSILLON ARC
2ND & 4TH FRIDAY
8:00 PM 147.180

HAM EXAM SKED
FEBRUARY 23, 2001
CARC/MASSILLON ARC
9:00 AM -STARK
COUNTY SHERIFF'S
OFFICE
4500 ATLANTIC
BLVD. CANTON, OHIO

FEBRUARY 10TH,
2002
MASR HAMFEST
RICHLAND COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS
MANSFIELD, OHIO

FEBRUARY 24TH,
2002
CUYAHOGA FALLS
AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB - 8:00AM
EMIDO & SONS
PARTY CENTER
48E. BATH ROAD
AT STATE RD.
CUYAHOGA, FALLS

AMATEUR RADIO WEB SITE DIRECTORY

ARRL
www.arrl.org

CLUB SITE
www.qsl.net/w8al/index.htm

STARK COUNTY
MUTUAL AID NET
www.qsl.net/ka8ftp

DX-SUMMIT
www.oh2gq.kolumbus.com/dxs1

FISTS
www.fists.org

CQ MAGAZINE
www.cq-amateur-radio.com

WEB SITE OF THE MONTH

REVISED LICENSE EXAMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM MANY SOURCES. I'VE FOUND A GREAT WEB-SITE THAT FEATURES AN EXAM TUTORIAL ALONG WITH AN ASSESSMENT OF EXAM WEBSITES. EVEN IF YOU HOLD AN EXTRA'S TICKET, YOU MAY WANT TO KNOW "WHAT YOU KNOW". COULD YOU PASS THE NEW EXAMS? IF YOU HOPE TO UPGRADE TO GENERAL OR EXTRA THIS WEB SITE PROVIDES THE BACKGROUND INFO FOR ALL THE QUESTIONS. LINKS ARE PROVIDED WHICH DIRECT YOU TO VARIOUS PRACTICE EXAMS AFTER YOU'VE STUDIED THE TUTORIAL. THE URL TO CHECK OUT IS:

www.transworldradio.8m.com/

A MORSE CODE TUTORIAL IS ALSO TO BE FOUND ON THE SITE AS WELL. WITH THE ABSENCE OF UP-TO-DATE HAM EXAM INFORMATION AROUND OUR CLUB, THIS SITE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO BECOME LICENSED OR UPGRADE!

RFI COMPLAINTS FRUSTRATE MICHIGAN AMATEUR (FROM THE A.R.R.L.)

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 28, 2002--Rob Underwood, W8YRB, says RFI complaints have him at his wit's end. The Wyoming, Michigan, ARRL member says his efforts to resolve some neighbors' complaints of stubborn interference are an impasse. To add to his frustration, the Wyoming City Council now has asked the FCC to step in, and the situation has erupted into a media spectacle that, he says, hasn't done much for ham radio's image.

"I'm finished with the whole thing," a clearly aggravated Underwood said. "I'll leave it to the FCC. If my station is malfunctioning, I'll be glad to do whatever is necessary to correct it. I just don't know what to do."

The FCC's position with respect to RFI to consumer devices is that the consumer device--telephone, stereo, TV or other appliance--most often is to blame, and that consumers need to deal with appliance manufacturers. "In many cases, the source of the problem could be your home electronics equipment," the FCC says on its Web site.

"It may not be adequately designed with circuitry or filtering to reject the unwanted signals of nearby transmitters."

Underwood says he's spent time and money to resolve interference complaints, but one neighbor a half block away has become especially intractable, pinning blame for interference to her telephone and touch lamp squarely on him. The woman ultimately complained to the city council, which met January 21 and unanimously agreed to contact the FCC.

"When I was at the council, they basically threw their hands in the air, and most of them said it was my station that needed to be 'filtered' and didn't want to hear what my solutions were," Underwood said. Ray Abraczinskas, W8HVG, said 21 amateurs attended the council meeting on Underwood's behalf. "One Council member did praise Mr. Underwood's attempt to assist and to educate everyone," he told ARRL.

Underwood said, however, that several other neighbors turned up at the session with new RFI complaints that he'd been totally unaware of until then. He sent them all copies of the FCC's interference guide plus a list of

filter sources and offered to assist them.

ARRL Lab Supervisor and RFI guru Ed Hare. WIRFI, spoke with Underwood this week and even offered to talk to the Wyoming City Council to help the members better understand the issues. Underwood says media coverage by *The Grand Rapids Press* and three local TV stations has not helped matters, since most of the reports have focused on the neighbors' complaints rather than on his efforts to respond to them. He also believes his decision to upgrade his primary HF antenna support structure from a 30 to a 48-foot tower this past summer may have helped inspire his neighbor with the troublesome touch lamp to bring the matter before the city council. her house. Although he installed some ferrite chokes on the lamp's power cord, the problem persisted. He said the neighbor got angry when he offered to contact the lamp's manufacturer to see what more he might do, and she refused further offers of help. At one point, he said, he was subjected to harassing telephone calls that sometimes included yelling and obscene comments. He said he discovered later that the neighbor's telephone, which he'd equipped with RF chokes, was equipped with an audio amplifier.

"One can choose to say he's an amateur and place the blame on the consumer electronics and offer no assistance," Underwood said. "Yet on the other hand, it seems only human nature to want to lend a helping hand to try to resolve the problem for the consumer, who may not understand what it is that is happening." Underwood says he chose to offer his assistance, using The ARRL RFI Book as his primary guidebook. "I've made every attempt within my means--both physical and financial--to try to resolve this," he said, "but it's obvious the neighbors are not willing to listen to me, because obviously I'm the person causing the trouble in their eyes."

Underwood may take some comfort in the fact that he has the full support of ARRL Michigan Section Manager Dick Mondro, W8FQT. "We have been aware of this problem for some time and we are working on it," Mondro said. "The FCC Detroit Field Office is also aware of the problem and has been working with us toward a resolution." Mondro said Underwood "is not the problem" and his station appears to be operating legally in every respect.